



DPW

UPDATE



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Roads Makes 4,000-Mile Video

Project Evaluates County Road Quality

Donahue Drive is normally an unremarkable street in a nice residential area not far from Valhalla High School in Rancho San Diego. But one spring day a large faded Omaha Orange van appeared, driving from one end of the street and back, then down the side streets.

This was no gang of burglars casing the neighborhood; it was Jose Amaya and Vince Carr from Roadware, Inc., evaluating and documenting pavement quality on these streets. DPW contracted with Roadware to drive every road maintained by the County. That's about 4,000 lane miles in the nearly 2,000 miles of roads the department maintains.

Downward looking cameras record good pavement and problems areas. "We record one lane at a time," Carr said as he sat in the van's passenger seat behind a computer keyboard. "We can see everything from small cracks to major potholes."



Roadware truck records Rancho San Diego pavement.



Vince Carr records data while Jose Amaya drives road assessment truck.

Kenton Jones, who oversees the project for DPW, says this program is a key step in effective pavement management.

"A well made and maintained road will last 19–20 years," Jones said. "In the past, we've relied on staff to determine what roads needed work and when. That will still be an important part of what we do, but the new system enhances and documents our needs."

Not only does the truck record road lanes, it also records the big picture. Three video cameras look left, right and straight ahead of the truck to show road signs, guardrails, vegetation and possible obstructions along the right of way. The outward looking and downward looking videos are synchronized so crews get the whole picture.

Jones says the current video establishes a benchmark for County roads. By documenting what exists today, he says, DPW will be able to accurately determine how roads in different areas wear and where available funds should be spent for repairs and replacement.

AS YOU LEAVE MANY OF OUR COUNTY and DPW facilities you'll see signs that say "Safety is no Accident." That's a not-so-subtle hint to pay attention as you go about your work.

So far during the fiscal year that ends June 30, in DPW we've done a good job of reducing the number of loss time injuries and that's a good thing. But our vehicle accident rate is not at all where it should be. It's time to fix that.

We frequently hold training sessions in all our sections and with crews. Carl Spiron, our safety officer, makes frequent checks in the field to ensure you have the equipment you need to work safely. Each month we run a safety column in this newsletter and the information you need is available, but it is up to each of us to use that knowledge.

Whether you're sitting at your computer, driving a five-yard or repairing infrastructure, please always follow proper procedures. If you don't know what they are, ask your supervisor, manager or the department's safety officer.

Working safely means working smart. Safety is no accident.


John Snyder,
Director

Recruitments

- Civil Engineer (open-series)
- Construction Technician (open-series)

Recruitment for these positions officially opens once it appears on the weekly Department of Human Resources job announcements listing. Once opened, applications may be obtained by visiting the Information Counter at the southeast corner of Building 2 at the COC, by calling (858) 694-2212 or through the job listing page on the DPW web site (sddcpw.org).

How to Prepare for a Safety Inspection

by Carl Spiron, Safety Officer

"Uh-oh, here comes the Safety Officer." You may not have said the words aloud, but you may have thought them. But safety inspections aren't something to fear.

When I visit one of our facilities or check our vehicles, my job is not to find things wrong, but to make sure you and your co-workers have the equipment and supplies you need, and are following procedures that will prevent you from being injured or killed on the job.

How do you prepare for an inspection? You shouldn't have to—proper equipment, supplies and procedures should be part of your daily practice.

There are some important things I

look for when I visit a site. They're not secret and I'd be happy to e-mail you the forms. Some of the items listed on these forms include:

- Personnel are using personal protective equipment where applicable
- Fire extinguishers are available and inspected monthly
- First aid kit is available and fully stocked
- Safe work practices are observed
- Permits are current
- Work areas are adequately illuminated

With daily practice, safety inspections will be no big deal and our field crews and office staff will be better prepared to deal with problems that arise.

Training

Can You Recognize the Red Flags?

by Kirsten Aaboe Hope, Training Officer

Do you know what to do in an emergency? Take this brief quiz to test your Red Flag knowledge:

1. You return to headquarters alone and discover your friend lying unresponsive on the floor. What do you do next?

- Phone 911 or other emergency response number
- Begin CPR
- Perform rescue breathing
- Transfer to advanced care



2. During a game of basketball, your father stops playing then becomes pale and sweaty, and complains of chest discomfort. You suspect he's having a heart attack. Which of the following is a red flag warning sign of heart attack that should prompt you to phone 911?

- Squeezing or crushing chest pain behind the breastbone that lasts more than a few minutes
- Sharp, stabbing chest pain that lasts only a few seconds
- Shortness of breath
- A headache your father describes as "the worst headache of my life"



3. On the job site, a co-worker suddenly clutches his chest and collapses. You go to his aid, find that he is unresponsive and ask

"Past, Present, Future" Theme for LUEG Fair



Eric Nelson (Airports), Ray Jafari (Capital Projects) and Larry Horsman (Materials Lab) check out historic leather flight suit, part of Airports' display.

What do model airplanes, cluttered storm drains and laptop computers have in common? They were all part of DPW's displays at this year's LUEG Fair in Felicita Park. The theme was "Past, Present, and Future." Each Land Use & Environment Group department assembled one or more displays that followed that concept.



Michelle Stress (Watershed Protection) shows off her new squishy stress relief ball.

The model airplanes were part of an Airports' display that featured aviation history, the County's eight



Rob Winslow of DPLU joins DPW's Mike Binge as LUEG's Adrian Gonzalez examines GIS display at LUEG Fair.

airports and plans for improving those facilities. The cluttered storm drains were part of displays set up by Watershed and Materials lab that stressed work that's been done to improve the quality of stormwater runoff. Laptop computers were part of the GIS display jointly assembled and staffed by DPW, Environmental Health and Planning & Land Use.

Williams Has World Perspective on Recycling

Recycling is more than just saving your aluminum cans to Wayne Williams. It's a compelling lifestyle.

"There's no reason we can't eventually recycle all our trash," Williams, DPW's Recycling Program Coordinator, says. "Everything has value and, if we're smart about it, we won't have to throw anything away."

Williams came to recycling through the back door. With a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from U.C. Davis, this former college professor at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo saw what happened to plants subjected to pollution.

"As a botanist, I started working with sick plants," he said. "That took me to studying ecology and ecosystem health."

But his experience isn't just in California. Before coming to DPW, he spent four years working with agriculture and businesses in the former Soviet Union as a regional environmental

advisor. He worked to set up agricultural business partnerships between farmers and businesses in Western Europe and the United States. Prior to that, he spent 10 years in Central America helping small farmers.

He says his position with the County is one of the best jobs he's ever had. That he credits to those with whom he works.

"I have a great staff and a supportive administration. This is a people-oriented job."

Much of his work today requires tact and diplomacy. He helps a host of local governments and agencies reach a consensus on important issues. Williams was a key player in putting together the landfill siting element that sets forth plans for local landfills in

the future. He also supervises four full-time staff and oversees 54 contracts, two consultants and a \$1.5 million budget.



Recycling's Wayne Williams.

Face Time or Web Time: What Customers Want

When a citizen wants to contact his or her government, how do they want to do it? Telephone? Internet? In-person visit? The answer is “all of the above.”

According to a nationwide survey of nearly 3,000 citizens by The Pew Internet & American Life Project, 40 percent of Americans say they would

prefer to use the telephone to contact government. Some 35 percent say they prefer the Internet or e-mail, 13 percent say an in-person visit is the way to go and only 10 percent would write a letter.

But stated preferences aren't always the same as what customers do. When asked how they'd actually contacted

the government recently, 47 percent say they visited a web site or used e-mail, 42 percent used the telephone, 20 percent visited in person and 17 percent wrote a letter.

The survey also found that there are some 109 million “Government Patrons” over the age of 18 in the United States.

Red Flags (continued)

another co-worker to phone 911. Which of the following groups of signs or symptoms are the warning signs of cardiac arrest?

- a. Facial droop, arm weakness and speech difficulties
- b. Chest pain, lightheadedness, sweating and nausea
- c. No response, no normal breathing, and no signs of circulation
- d. No response, spontaneous breathing and chest pain



4. You are talking with your supervisor when she begins to slur her words. You suspect she is having a stroke. Which of the following signs or symptoms are the warning signs of stroke that should prompt you to phone 911 or other emergency response number?

- a. Sudden loss of responsiveness and cardiac arrest
- b. Facial droop, arm weakness and speech difficulties
- c. No response, no normal breathing and no signs of circulation
- d. Crushing chest pain that lasts a few minutes, nausea and sweating



5. A 22-year-old man engaged in conversation at the table next to yours in the cafeteria suddenly begins to cough forcefully and then clutches his neck and becomes silent. Which of the following are signs of severe choking that prompt you to perform the Heimlich maneuver?

- a. Hoarse speech and wheezing between coughs
- b. Severe, forceful coughing
- c. Inability to speak, breathe, or cough forcefully and blue skin or lips
- d. No response, no normal breathing, and no signs of circulation



How did you do? **1, a; 2, a; 3, c; 4, b; 5, c.** If you missed any, it's a good time to refresh your memory in first aid and CPR. Contact the DPW Training Office (858) 694-2205 or check the Intranet side (<http://cww/dpw/training.html>) to find out when classes are scheduled.

Milestones



Cindi Smart-Zeigler – Road Crew Supervisor, Campo Road Station



Warren Garrett – Equipment Operator, Julian Road Station



Lisa Kulhanek – Intermediate Clerk, Division I Headquarters

Paul Rodriguez – Equipment Operator, Alpine Road Station

Doug Wells – Equipment Operator, Julian Road Station

Names of Note

Promotions

Bruce Watson – Road Crew Supervisor to Division II Assistant Road Superintendent

Scott Watson – Road Crew Supervisor to Division I Assistant Road Superintendent

Transfers

Chris Dunn – Lakeside Road Station to Campo Road Station

Scott Watson – Ramona Construction Crew to Division I Headquarters

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Greg Cox, District 1
Dianne Jacob, District 2
Pam Slater-Price, District 3
Ron Roberts, District 4
Bill Horn, District 5

Chief Administrative Officer
Walt Ekard

Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Robert R. Copper

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